



2006–2007 WATERFOWL HUNTING DIGEST

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION



Introduction to Missouri Waterfowl Hunting

Missouri waterfowl hunters have more days and more places to hunt than ever before in modern history. Hunters can hunt eight months out of the year beginning with the teal season in September and ending with the conclusion of the light goose Conservation Order in April.

More places to hunt are due to extensive wetland restoration efforts. In the last 15 years, federal and state agencies, conservation organizations, and concerned citizens have restored 25,000 acres of public wetlands and over 100,000 acres of private wetlands—a small portion of the 90 percent of wetlands lost in Missouri. Today's hunters now have the opportunity to hunt such varied habitat as shallow-flooded wetlands, flooded crop fields, flooded timber, dry crop fields, streams, rivers, ponds and reservoirs.

2006–2007 Waterfowl Hunting Outlook

Hunter expectations will no doubt be high going into the 2006–07 duck season with duck numbers up 9 percent and May ponds up 26 percent from their long-term averages. Favorable spring conditions also resulted in above average production for migrant Canada geese and snow geese. In Missouri, weather, habitat, and migration timing will have a greater impact on the season than the size of the fall flight. If fall rains raise river levels and fill wetland basins, waterfowl migrating through Missouri will benefit from this year's good to excellent crop and moist soil plant production. Hunters will have a 60-day duck season for the 10th consecutive year, a 79-day Canada goose season, more late season Canada goose hunting days than in recent history, and the Conservation Order for the ninth consecutive year.

What's new for 2006

- ▶ Reservation system limited to residents only. See page 18.
- ▶ Draw system favoring larger parties expands to Bob Brown, Grand Pass and Ten Mile Pond conservation areas. See page 18.

Ducks:

- ▶ North/Middle Zone boundary moved to I-70 in west Missouri.
- ▶ Southeast Goose Zone was eliminated.
- ▶ Canvasback and pintail seasons will run the entire duck season.
- ▶ Hooded merganser bag limit has been increased to 2.

Geese:

- ▶ Canada goose season no longer opens on the same day as duck season.
- ▶ The white-fronted goose season was shortened to allow an increased bag limit of 2.
- ▶ The white-fronted goose season opens on Nov. 24 with the regular Canada goose season.

Wetland Status

Average to above average precipitation in spring 2006 contributed to improved habitat conditions on the duck breeding grounds. The total pond count, a measure of the number of wetlands, increased 13 percent from 2005 and is now 26 percent above the long-term average. The most significant improvements occurred in Alberta and the northern grassland and parkland regions of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Conditions were much more variable in the U.S. prairie pothole region where the overall number of May ponds (1.6 million) remained near the long-term average, but the summer has been dry. As of August, much of the Dakotas were in a moderate to severe drought.

Duck Status

The duck population estimate of 36.2 million in the traditional survey area is 14 percent above last year's estimate and 9 percent above the long-term average. The fall flight index for mallards is projected to be 9.8 million, which is similar to the 2005 projection of 9.3 million. The canvasback population estimate of 0.7 million is 33 percent higher than last year and 23 percent above the long-term average. Pintail numbers of 3.4 million increased by 32 percent from 2005, but still remain 18 percent below the long-term average.

Other species that increased in abundance from 2005 include blue-winged teal (5.9 million, up 23 percent), green-winged teal (2.6 million, up 20 percent), gadwall (2.8 million, up 30 percent), and redheads (0.9 million, up 55 percent). The shoveler estimate of 3.7 million remains similar to 2005, and 69 percent above the long-term average.

Estimates of 2.2 million wigeons and 3.2 million scaup remain similar to last year, but are 17 percent and 37 percent below their respective long-term averages.

Goose Status

The Eastern Prairie population of Canada geese that nest along the coast of the Hudson Bay experienced an excellent year of production and the fall flight is expected to be similar to 2005. The Canada goose population in Missouri has been stable at around 65,000 geese since 2000, while numbers in Iowa, Minnesota, and Manitoba increased in 2006. After peaking at nearly 3 million in 1998, light geese have declined by about 3 percent per year. An early to average arctic spring led to slightly above average snow goose production in 2006.

If unsure of the species, the safest bet is to not shoot!

Ducks and Coots

Shooting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset

Season Dates: see table on back cover

Limits:

Coots15 daily and 30 in possession.

Ducks: The **daily bag limit** of ducks is 6 and may include no more than:

Mallard	4, but no more than 2 females
Scaup	2
Redhead	2
Wood duck	2
Hooded merganser (new limit)	2
Black duck	1
Pintail	1
Canvasback	1

Other species may be taken in any number up to the daily bag limit of 6 ducks total.

The **possession limit** of ducks is 12 (twice the daily bag limit; varies by species.)

Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days

In 2006, there are two youth-only waterfowl hunting days in each zone for ducks, geese and coots. Youth hunters must be:

- age 15 or younger
- accompanied by an adult who is not allowed to hunt ducks but who can participate in other open seasons.

No permits are required for youth hunters. Nonhunting adults, however, must possess any permit that allows small game hunting unless the youth hunter possesses a valid hunter education certificate card.

Shooting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset

Season Dates: *North Zone:* Oct. 21–22

Middle Zone: Oct. 28–29

South Zone: Nov. 18–19

Limits: The same as during the regular waterfowl season, including only two Canada geese per day.

Falconry Season for Ducks, Coots & Mergansers

Hunting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset

Season Dates: Sept. 9–24 & Feb. 10–March 10 statewide

Limits: The **daily bag limit** is 3 and the **possession limit** is 6, singly or in the aggregate.

Geese

Shooting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset

Season Dates: See table on the back cover.

Limits:

The **daily bag limits** of geese are:

Blue, snow & Ross's (all species combined)	20
White-fronted (new limit)	2
Brant	1

Canada:

Statewide:

Sept. 30–Oct. 9	3
Nov. 24–Jan. 31	2

The **possession limits** of geese are twice the daily bag limits, except there is no possession limit for blue, snow and Ross's geese.

Canada Goose Season Changes

For the first time in over a decade, Missouri will not be limited to 40 or fewer days after Nov. 30 and will be allowed a 79-day season. These changes will enable Missouri to set season dates that better coincide with the arrival of migrant Canada geese, offer the same season dates statewide, and eliminate the Southeast Zone. To take advantage of high numbers of giant Canada geese in Minnesota and Manitoba, state and federal agencies responsible for Eastern Prairie population of Canada goose management agreed to allow more liberal Canada goose hunting regulations even if it results in a reduction in numbers. It is believed that EPP Canada geese numbers may decline, but stabilize at lower levels, as hunters harvest a growing proportion of giant Canada geese. However, if geese numbers in this population decline too dramatically over the next few years, Missouri and other states may return to more restrictive regulations.

Spring 2007 Conservation Order Feb. 1–April 30

A light goose Conservation Order will be in effect for the ninth consecutive year during spring 2007. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service implemented the Conservation Order to reduce numbers of snow and Ross's geese because they have rapidly increased in number and are causing damage to portions of the fragile arctic tundra. The Conservation Order for light geese (snow geese, including blue color phase, and Ross's geese) will be in effect from Feb. 1–April 30 with no bag limit. Hunters may use electronic calls and unplugged shotguns and shoot from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. See page 8 for permit requirements.

New Zone Boundaries Set for 2006–2010

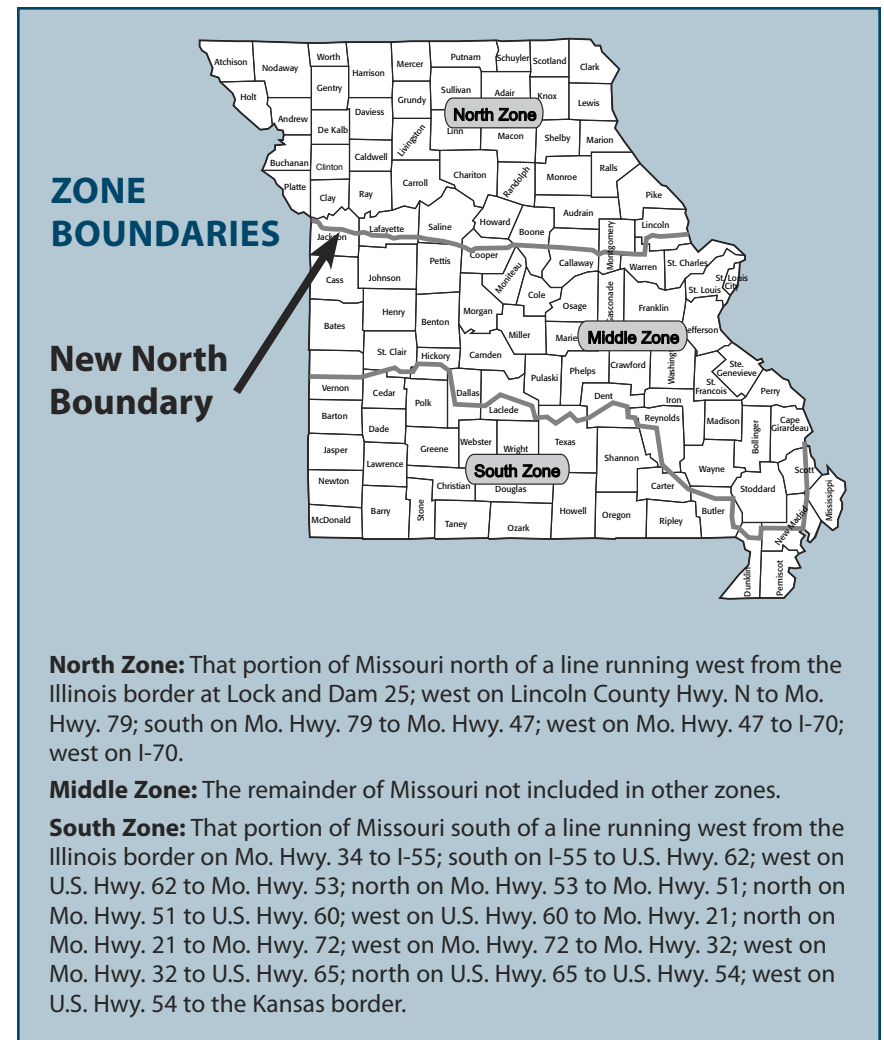
In 2006, Missouri and other states had the opportunity to revise their duck season structure and zone boundaries for the next five years. To the degree possible, season dates and zone boundaries in Missouri are designed to accommodate different habitats, hunting styles and species hunted within a given area.

Hunters Helped Establish Zones: The Conservation Department surveyed 10,000 migratory bird permit holders about zone boundaries and season dates after the 2004 waterfowl season. In addition, over 400 people attended 10 statewide workshops during the spring of 2006. The survey and workshops revealed that most hunters were satisfied with the current structure that includes three zones—the maximum number allowed. Most hunters indicated they were satisfied with season dates, but about 20 percent remain dissatisfied. Of the hunters wanting different season dates, 43 percent wanted earlier seasons and 56 percent wanted later seasons. Survey information from 2005 indicated a slight shift with slightly more hunters desiring earlier rather than later seasons. See www.mdc.mo.gov/documents/hunt/wtrfowl/d_zone_ev.pdf for complete workshop results.

North Zone Boundary Changed from Highways 54 and 50 to I-70: North Zone hunters in Central Missouri have season date preferences that are better matched with the Middle Zone. This change will accommodate hunters' desires for a straight, well-defined boundary. It will benefit Missouri River hunters between Jefferson City and Columbia; and in mild years, it will provide shallow water hunters with late season mallard hunting opportunity.

Zone Boundaries Represent a Compromise: In response to hunters in southwest and southeast Missouri, the Department of Conservation considered moving the South Zone boundary further south in southwest Missouri and opening the season about a week later in the Middle Zone. However, these changes would have resulted in Middle Zone season dates later than desired by most hunters in this zone. It would have only provided limited benefit in southeast Missouri where there is little agreement about season dates or zone boundaries. Moving the season a week later in the Middle Zone also would have resulted in duck season opening on the same day as the deer firearms season. The other option, moving southeast Missouri into the South Zone, would have resulted in season dates two weeks later than preferred, on average, by hunters in this region. The selected zone boundaries represent a compromise among hunters and between regions.

For help in identifying ducks, purchase the Conservation Department's 16-minute video, "The Key to Duck ID," by calling toll-free 877-521-8632 or on-line at www.mdcnatureshop.com. You can also find tips at: www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/birds/duckdist/index.htm



Adaptive Harvest Management

Duck seasons, based on regulatory alternatives developed under the Adaptive Harvest Management Program, provide for a 60-day season with a six-duck daily bag limit in 2006–07 for the 10th consecutive year. Each year's regulation recommendation is based on the status of the mallard breeding population and the condition of prairie ponds in Canada. A three-tiered package of open seasons includes liberal (60 days), moderate (45 days) and restrictive (30 days) options. For more information, go to:

<http://migratorybirds.fws.gov/mgmt/AHM/AHM-intro.htm>

Permit and Stamp Requirements

To pursue, take, possess, and transport ducks, coots, and geese in Missouri, all hunters age 16 and older, unless exempt, must have in their possession three permits. Persons born on or after Jan. 1, 1967, must have completed an approved hunter education program in Missouri or elsewhere and display a Hunter Education Certificate Card before buying any firearms hunting permit, but a card need not be displayed if certification can be verified at the vendor's computer terminal. **Note:** During the Conservation Order, Feb. 1–April 30, residents and nonresidents age 16 and older only need a Migratory Bird Hunting Permit.

1. Missouri residents age 16 through 64, unless exempt, and nonresidents age 16 and older, must have one of the following:
 - ▶ Missouri *Resident Small Game Hunting Permit* \$10
 - ▶ Missouri *Resident Hunting & Fishing Permit* \$19
 - ▶ Missouri *Daily Small Game Hunting Permit* \$11
 - ▶ Missouri *Nonresident Small Game Hunting Permit* \$65**Exemption:** Missouri resident landowners on their own land do not need any of the above.
2. In addition to one of the above, residents and nonresidents age 16 and older must have a:
 - ▶ Missouri *Migratory Bird Hunting Permit* \$6**Note:** Purchase of this permit satisfies requirements for Migratory Game Bird Harvest Registration (HIP).
3. In addition to the permits listed above, all hunters age 16 and older must have a:
 - ▶ Federal *Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp* \$15**Note:** This federal “duck” stamp must be signed in ink across the face.

Permit requirements for hunters aged 15 and under

- ▶ Resident and nonresident hunters age 15 and under are not required to purchase any permits to hunt ducks, coots or geese in Missouri. However, they must either be in the immediate presence of a properly licensed adult hunter, or have in their possession a valid Hunter Education Certificate Card while hunting.

Where to Purchase Permits

Purchase the Missouri *Small Game Hunting Permit* and the Missouri *Migratory Bird Hunting Permit*:

- ▶ over the counter from any permit vendor
- ▶ by telephone anytime at (800) 392-4115*
- ▶ on-line anytime at www.wildlifelicenses.com/mo*

*Credit card and \$2 per person surcharge required. Allow 10 days for delivery.

Purchase the federal *Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp* (duck stamp) at U.S. Post Offices and selected permit vendors.

When hunting from a boat

- ▶ Leave a detailed float plan with family or friends.
- ▶ Check weather forecast. High wind can be dangerous. Cancel trip if water conditions aren't safe.
- ▶ Don't overload the boat.
- ▶ Load gear low in the boat and distribute the weight evenly.
- ▶ Wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket at all times even if you can swim.
- ▶ If wearing chest waders, use a belt to keep them from filling up with water.
- ▶ Stow visual distress signals on board.
- ▶ Carry a throwable flotation device in case someone falls overboard.
- ▶ Transport firearms to the boat muzzle first with the action open, unloaded and cased.
- ▶ At the first sign of a storm, head for shore.

If your boat swamps or capsizes

- ▶ Stay with the boat, and use distress signals.
- ▶ To retain body heat, pull your knees to your chest and keep your elbows to your sides.
- ▶ If in chest waders, trap air by bending your knees and raising your feet. Lie back in the water.

Other ways to stay afloat

- ▶ Place an oar under the knees and another behind the back and shoulders.
- ▶ If in hip boots, trap air in the boots by bending your knees. Lie on your stomach.
- ▶ If decoys are in reach, stuff them inside your jacket.

BE AN ETHICAL HUNTER

- ✓ **Respect Other Hunters**—Your enjoyment, and theirs, will result from mutual courtesy in the marsh.
- ✓ **Respect the Rules**—Know all state and federal regulations.
- ✓ **Respect Biology**—We share responsibility for migratory bird and wetland resources throughout North America.
- ✓ **Respect the Waterfowl Hunting Tradition**—Setting up too close or downwind of other hunters is neither safe nor ethical.
- ✓ **Respect the Resource**—Use nontoxic shot; and be sure that birds are in range and that you identify your target before shooting.

Due to the copyright, the steel shot lethality table is not available online. It can be found in the printed version of the “2006–2007 Waterfowl Hunting Digest,” which is available at permit vendors.

Federal Regulations Summary

In addition to state regulations, the following federal rules apply to the taking, possession, transportation, shipment, and storage of waterfowl and other migratory birds. **Note:** This is only a summary; refer to Title 50, Part 20 of the Code of Federal Regulations at www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/.

RESTRICTIONS: No person shall take waterfowl:

- With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10-gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance.
- With a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun except during the light goose Conservation Order.
- From a sink box (a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- From or with the aid or use of a car or other motor-driven land conveyance, or any aircraft, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance. Paraplegic means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with involvement of both legs, usually due to disease of or injury to the spinal cord.
- From or by means of any motorboat or sailboat unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sail furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased.
- By the use or aid of live decoys. All live, tame, or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.
- Using records or tapes of migratory bird calls or sounds, or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls except during the light goose Conservation Order.
- By driving, rallying, or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance or any sailboat to put them in the range of the hunters.
- By the aid of baiting (placing feed such as corn, wheat, salt, or other feed to constitute a lure or enticement), or on or over any baited area. Hunters should be aware that a baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait, and it is not necessary for the hunter to know an area is or was baited to be in violation. Agricultural areas must be prepared in accordance with official recommendations to be legally hunted. It is a separate offense to place bait on or adjacent to an area that causes, induces, or allows another to hunt by the aid of bait or over a baited area.

- While possessing shot (either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzle-loading) other than steel shot or such shot approved as nontoxic by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

CLOSED SEASON: No person shall take migratory game birds during the closed season.

SHOOTING OR HAWKING HOURS: No person shall take migratory game birds except during the hours open to shooting and hawking as prescribed.

DAILY BAG LIMIT: No person shall take in any one day more than one daily bag limit.

FIELD POSSESSION LIMIT: No person shall possess more than one daily bag limit while in the field or while returning from the field to one's car, hunting camp, motel, etc.

WANTON WASTE: All migratory game birds killed or crippled shall be retrieved, if possible, and retained in the custody of the hunter in the field.

TAGGING: No person shall give, put, or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:

1. The hunter's signature.
2. The hunter's address.
3. Hunting permit number.
4. The total number of birds involved, by species.
5. The dates such birds were killed.

No person or business shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

POSSESSION OF LIVE BIRDS: Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.

DRESSING: No person shall completely field dress any migratory game bird (except doves) and then transport the birds from the field. The head or one full-feathered wing must remain attached to all such birds while being transported from the field to one's home or to a commercial preservation facility.

SHIPMENT: No person shall ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with: (a) the name and address of the person sending the birds, (b) the name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent, and (c) the number of birds, by species, contained in the package.

IMPORTATION: For information regarding the importation of migratory birds killed in another country, hunters should consult federal regulations 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66. One fully-feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds being transported between a port of entry and one's home or to a migratory bird preservation facility. No person shall import migratory game birds killed in any foreign country, except

Canada, unless such birds are dressed (except as required above), drawn, and the head and feet are removed. No person shall import migratory game birds belonging to another person.

PERMITS AND STAMPS: Waterfowl hunters 16 years of age and over must carry on their person a valid federal *Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp* (federal duck stamp) signed in ink across the face by the user.

DUAL VIOLATION: Violation of state migratory bird regulations is also a violation of federal regulations.

Shot Requirements

Shells possessed or used while hunting waterfowl or coots statewide, and other species as designated by posting on public areas, must be loaded with material approved as nontoxic by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Shot types approved as being nontoxic are:

bismuth-tin	97% bismuth, 3% tin
iron (steel)	iron and carbon
iron-tungsten	any proportion of tungsten and $\geq 1\%$ iron
iron-tungsten-nickel	$\geq 1\%$ iron, any proportion of tungsten, up to 40% nickel
tungsten-bronze	51.1% tungsten, 44.4% copper, 3.9% tin, 0.6% iron or 60% tungsten, 35.1% copper, 3.9% tin, 1% iron
tungsten-iron-copper-nickel	40–76% tungsten, 10–37% iron, 9–16% copper, 5–7% nickel
tungsten-matrix	95.9% tungsten, 4.1% polymer
tungsten-polymer	95.5% tungsten, 4.5% nylon 6 or 11
tungsten-tin-iron	any proportions of tungsten and tin, $\geq 1\%$ iron
tungsten-tin-bismuth	any proportions of tungsten, tin and bismuth
tungsten-tin-iron-nickel	65% tungsten, 21.8% tin, 10.4% iron, 2.8% nickel

Check the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service website at http://migratorybirds.fws.gov/issues/nontoxic_shot/nontoxic.htm for up-to-date information.

WATERFOWL STATUS ONLINE

For information about biweekly waterfowl counts, hunting reports throughout the fall, and other waterfowl information, go to: www.missouriconservation.org/hunt/wtrfowl

A summary of continental waterfowl status is available at: <http://migratorybirds.fws.gov/reports/reports.html>

Avian Influenza Precautions

As of August 2006, there is no evidence that the highly pathogenic H5N1 strain of bird flu is present in North America in either wild or domestic birds. However, the potential exists for wild migratory birds to carry the virus to North America, or for the virus to be introduced through the legal wild bird pet trade, shipment of goods from overseas, smuggling or other means.

As part of a national plan, the Conservation Department is helping monitor migratory birds for H5N1 bird flu. This effort will include sampling 1,500 hunter-harvested ducks and geese in Missouri. Waterfowl are susceptible to a number of diseases, and Department personnel regularly submit samples to the National Wildlife Health Center for diagnosis. It should be noted that the observation of dead wild birds does not necessarily indicate the arrival of the virus; bird deaths can be caused by a variety of diseases, events, or environmental factors. State and federal agencies are taking steps to minimize the potential impact of the occurrence of H5N1 avian flu should it occur within the United States.

For more information about avian influenza, go to:

www.mdc.mo.gov/hunt/wtrfowl/birdflu.htm

www.pandemicflu.gov

www.nwhc.usgs.gov/disease_information/avian_influenza

Proper Handling of Game Birds

Practice good hygiene when handling or cleaning wild birds. Here are some specific practices recommended by the U.S. Geological Survey National Wildlife Health Center:

1. Do not handle or eat birds that are obviously sick or birds found dead. Contact the Conservation Department or a federal natural resource agency if you find sick or dead birds.
2. Thoroughly wash hands with soap and water (or with an alcohol-based hand product if your hands are not visibly soiled) after handling and cleaning birds.
3. Do not eat, drink or smoke while cleaning or handling birds.
4. Wear rubber or disposable latex gloves while handling and cleaning game.
5. Keep your game birds cool, clean and dry.
6. Clean all tools and surfaces immediately after cleaning birds; use hot soapy water, then disinfect with a 10 percent chlorine bleach solution.
7. Cook game meat thoroughly (well done or 160 degrees F).

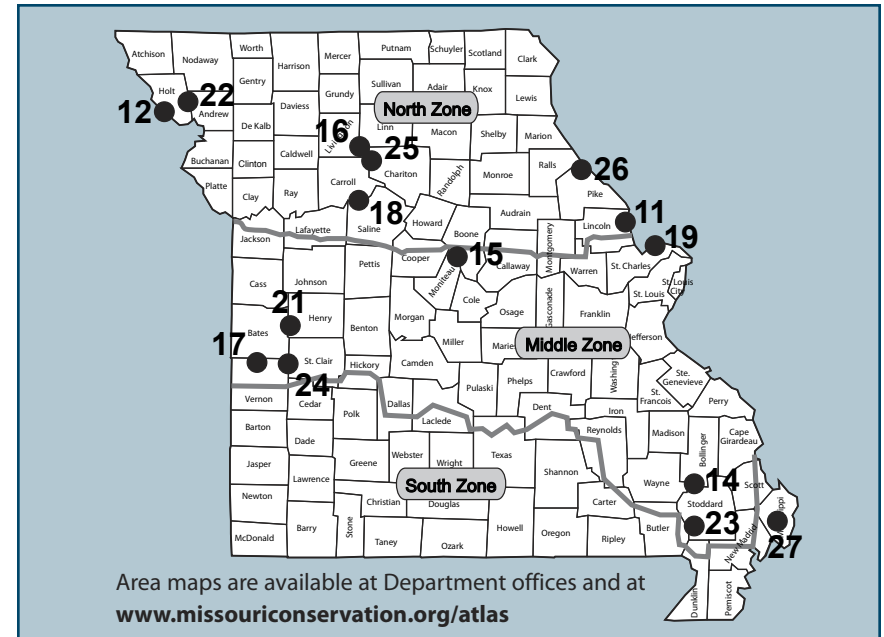
Managed Waterfowl Hunting in Missouri

The Conservation Department provides managed waterfowl hunting on 15 conservation areas. These intensively managed areas provide waterfowl with much needed resources during spring and fall migrations. The Department limits the number of parties on these areas to give hunters an opportunity for a quality hunt. Resident hunters can hunt these areas by applying for a reservation each year beginning in early September. Residents and nonresidents also may hunt these areas by attending a morning drawing. Some of these areas have permanent blinds, and others provide opportunity for hunters to wade in or hunt from layout boats or boat blinds. Most have disabled-accessible blinds. Additional information about Missouri's managed waterfowl hunting can be found at www.mdc.mo.gov/hunt/wtrfowl/

Managed Waterfowl Hunting Areas

To hunt on the following conservation areas, you must participate in the daily drawing. For details, call the phone numbers below.

- 11 B. K. Leach CA** (4,314 acres; Lincoln County) 573-898-5905. Walk-in hunting; water blinds; one ADA blind (call 636-441-4554); boats provided where needed; 1 p.m. closure. Drawing held at addition.
- 12 Bob Brown CA** (3,302 acres; Holt County) 660-646-6122. Walk-in hunting; temporary blinds only; one ADA blind (call 816-271-3100); boat ramp; camping; permits & stamps; 1 p.m. closure.
- 14 Duck Creek CA** (6,234 acres; Bollinger, Stoddard, Wayne counties) 573-222-3337. Walk-in hunting; flooded timber; goose pits; field hunting for geese; water blinds; two ADA blinds (call 573-290-5730); boats provided for some blinds; boat ramp; camping; permits & stamps; 1 p.m. closure in designated areas. **Note:** Pool 8 is part of Mingo National Wildlife Refuge and is managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.
- 15 Eagle Bluffs CA** (4,287 acres; Boone County) 573-445-3882. Walk-in hunting; temporary blinds only; two ADA blinds; permits & stamps; 1 p.m. closure in designated areas.
- 16 Fountain Grove CA** (7,154 acres; Linn & Livingston counties) 660-646-6122. Walk-in hunting; water blinds; one ADA blind; boats provided; gravel boat ramp; camping; permits & stamps; 1 p.m. closure in designated areas.
- 17 Four Rivers CA** (13,887 acres; Vernon & Bates counties) 417-395-2341. Units 1 & 2 consisting of eight shooting pools. Walk-in hunting; field hunting for geese; temporary blinds only; one ADA blind; boat ramps; camping; permits & stamps; open all day.
- 18 Grand Pass CA** (5,096 acres; Saline County) 660-646-6122. Walk-in hunting; field hunting for geese; temporary blinds only; boat ramp; camping; permits & stamps; 1 p.m. closure in designated areas.
- 19 Marais Temps Clair CA** (935 acres; St. Charles County) 314-877-6014. Open to waterfowl hunting on Friday through Monday only. Walk-in hunting; one ADA blind; 1 p.m. closure.



- 21 Montrose CA** (3,979 acres; Henry County) 660-693-4666. Water blinds; one ADA blind; boat ramp; camping; permits & stamps; open all day.
 - 22 Nodaway Valley CA** (3,833 acres; Holt & Andrew counties) 660-646-6122. Walk-in hunting; water blinds; one ADA blind (call 816-271-3100); temporary blinds only; boat ramp; camping; permits & stamps; 1 p.m. closure on portions of the area.
 - 23 Otter Slough CA** (4,866 acres; Butler & Stoddard counties) 573-624-5821. Walk-in hunting; field hunting for geese; water blinds; temporary blinds only; one ADA blind; boats provided for blinds only; boat ramps; camping; permits & stamps; 1 p.m. closure.
 - 24 Schell-Osage CA** (8,633 acres; Vernon & St. Clair counties) 417-432-3414. Walk-in hunting; water blinds; two ADA blinds; boat ramp; camping; permits & stamps; 1 p.m. closure in designated areas.
 - 25 Swan Lake NWR** (2,500 acres; Chariton County) 660-856-3343. Goose hunting only; field hunting; goose pits; water blinds; one ADA blind; permits & stamps; 1 p.m. closure in designated areas. Hunt is administered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.
 - 26 Ted Shanks CA** (6,705 acres; Pike County) 573-248-2530. Walk-in hunting; water blinds; one ADA blind; boats provided; boat ramp; camping; permits & stamps; 1 p.m. closure in designated areas.
 - 27 Ten Mile Pond CA** (3,755 acres; Mississippi County) 573-649-2770. Walk-in hunting; field hunting for geese; temporary blinds only; boat ramp; permits & stamps; open all day.
- Note:** This year, no reservations are offered for **Little River CA** (1,036 acres; Pemiscot County) 573-649-2770. Waterfowl hunting is available on a "first come, first served" basis in designated areas as posted on the check-in parking lot.

Reservation System Limited to Residents Only

Starting this year, only Missouri residents will be eligible for a reservation. In 2004 and 2005 nearly 8 percent of reservation holders were nonresidents and 10 percent of trips on managed waterfowl areas were taken by nonresidents. This change will give Missouri residents more opportunity while still giving nonresidents the opportunity to hunt either by hunting with a resident who has a reservation or by participating in the daily morning drawings. Information on reservations are available at www.mdc.mo.gov/hunt/wtrfowl/reserve/

Draw System Favoring Larger Parties Expands to More Areas

In 2004, the Department initiated a morning draw system at Eagle Bluffs and Otter Slough where every member of a hunting party in the "poor line" (hunters without reservations) drew for a hunting location. Starting this year, Bob Brown, Grand Pass and Ten Mile Pond also will use the new system. While opportunity for "poor line" hunters is limited, the intent of the new draw system is to give more people a chance to hunt.

Unlike the old system where only one member could draw, the new system favors larger parties by allowing each party to use its best number to compete in the drawing. This change will not impact the way reservation holders draw for positions. Reservation holders will continue to draw first and from a smaller pool of pills that will guarantee them a place to hunt.

During the trial phase, Eagle Bluffs accommodated about 33 percent more hunters and at Otter Slough, 27 percent more. Survey results from these areas indicated that more than 60 percent of Eagle Bluffs hunters and over 50 percent of Otter Slough hunters favored the new system. The Department will likely expand the new system to all managed waterfowl areas in 2007.

REPORT YOUR BANDS www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl

Bird banding programs provide valuable information on a wide variety of migratory game birds. Bands recovered and reported by hunters provide important information about survival, migration, and harvest rates and distribution.

To report band numbers from all types of birds (except pigeons), go on-line at www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl. You can also report bands by calling 1-800-327-BAND (2263). You will receive a certificate of appreciation and information about the bird you reported. The band is yours to keep!

SUNRISE AND SUNSET AT JEFFERSON CITY

DAY	SEPT. 2006		OCT. 2006		NOV. 2006		DEC. 2006		JAN. 2007	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
1	6:38	7:39	7:05	6:51	6:35	5:09	7:07	4:48	7:26	4:58
2	6:39	7:37	7:05	6:50	6:36	5:08	7:08	4:48	7:27	4:59
3	6:40	7:36	7:06	6:48	6:38	5:07	7:09	4:48	7:27	5:00
4	6:41	7:34	7:07	6:47	6:39	5:06	7:10	4:48	7:27	5:01
5	6:41	7:33	7:08	6:45	6:40	5:04	7:11	4:47	7:27	5:02
6	6:42	7:31	7:09	6:44	6:41	5:03	7:12	4:47	7:27	5:03
7	6:43	7:30	7:10	6:42	6:42	5:03	7:13	4:47	7:27	5:03
8	6:44	7:28	7:11	6:40	6:43	5:02	7:14	4:47	7:27	5:04
9	6:45	7:26	7:12	6:39	6:44	5:01	7:15	4:48	7:26	5:05
10	6:46	7:25	7:13	6:38	6:45	5:00	7:15	4:48	7:26	5:06
11	6:47	7:23	7:14	6:36	6:46	4:59	7:16	4:48	7:26	5:07
12	6:48	7:22	7:15	6:35	6:47	4:58	7:17	4:48	7:26	5:08
13	6:48	7:20	7:16	6:33	6:48	4:57	7:18	4:48	7:26	5:09
14	6:49	7:18	7:17	6:32	6:50	4:56	7:18	4:48	7:25	5:10
15	6:50	7:17	7:18	6:30	6:51	4:56	7:19	4:49	7:25	5:11
16	6:51	7:15	7:19	6:29	6:52	4:55	7:20	4:49	7:25	5:13
17	6:52	7:14	7:20	6:27	6:53	4:54	7:20	4:49	7:24	5:14
18	6:53	7:12	7:21	6:26	6:54	4:54	7:21	4:50	7:24	5:15
19	6:54	7:11	7:22	6:25	6:55	4:53	7:22	4:50	7:23	5:16
20	6:55	7:09	7:23	6:23	6:56	4:52	7:22	4:51	7:23	5:17
21	6:56	7:07	7:24	6:22	6:57	4:52	7:23	4:51	7:22	5:18
22	6:56	7:06	7:25	6:21	6:58	4:51	7:23	4:52	7:22	5:19
23	6:57	7:04	7:26	6:19	6:59	4:51	7:24	4:52	7:21	5:20
24	6:58	7:03	7:27	6:18	7:00	4:50	7:24	4:53	7:21	5:21
25	6:59	7:01	7:28	6:17	7:01	4:50	7:25	4:53	7:20	5:23
26	7:00	6:59	7:29	6:16	7:02	4:49	7:25	4:54	7:19	5:24
27	7:01	6:58	7:30	6:14	7:03	4:49	7:25	4:55	7:19	5:25
28	7:02	6:56	7:31	6:13	7:04	4:49	7:26	4:55	7:18	5:26
29	7:03	6:55	7:32	6:12	7:05	4:48	7:26	4:56	7:17	5:27
30	7:04	6:53	7:33	6:11	7:06	4:48	7:26	4:57	7:16	5:28
31			6:34	5:10			7:26	4:57	7:15	5:29

This table is for Jefferson City and points on the same longitude north and south. For locations east, subtract one minute for each 13.5 miles of airline distance. For locations west, add one minute for each 13.5 miles. Sunrise and sunset from Sept. 1 to Oct. 30 have been converted to daylight-saving time. To calculate the sunrise and sunset times anywhere in the United States, see the U.S. Naval Observatory web site: <http://aa.usno.navy.mil/>

Harvest Survey Needs Your Response

When you purchase your *Migratory Bird Hunting Permit*, the vendor asks you a series of questions about your last year's migratory bird hunting activities. The answers you provide place you in a category with other migratory bird hunters by type and amount of hunting activity. This allows the Conservation Department and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, through the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program, to use harvest surveys to sample hunters from each category. This survey information is considered when establishing migratory bird hunting seasons each year. If you are one of the hunters selected to receive a survey, please complete and return it even if you did not hunt or were unsuccessful while afield. By completing the survey, you are helping manage these important migratory birds.

2006–2007 Waterfowl Seasons

Zone	Youth Hunt	Ducks	Canada Geese & Brant	White-fronted Geese	Light Geese (snow, blue, Ross's)*
NORTH	10/21–10/22	10/28–12/26	9/30–10/9 11/24–1/31	11/24–1/31	10/28–1/31
MIDDLE	10/28–10/29	11/4–1/2			
SOUTH	11/18–11/19	11/24–1/22			

*The **Conservation Order** for light geese will be in effect from **Feb. 1 through April 30, 2006**, with no bag limit. Hunters may use electronic calls and unplugged shotguns, and shoot from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. A valid Missouri Migratory Bird Hunting Permit is the only permit required for residents and nonresidents during this time.

Daily Bag Limits (see pages 4 & 5 for possession limits)

Duck Bag Limit

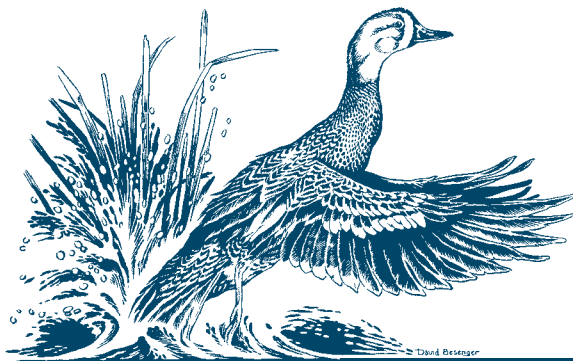
6 ducks daily including:

- No more than 4 mallards (2 females)
- No more than 2 each:
 - wood ducks
 - hooded mergansers
 - scaup
 - redheads
- No more than 1 each:
 - pintail
 - canvasback
 - black duck

Goose Bag Limits

- 3 Canada geese during the early season
- 2 Canada geese during the regular season
- 2 white-fronted geese
- 20 light geese
- 1 brant

**For permit
information,
see page 8.**



Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Questions should be directed to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, (573) 751-4115 (voice) or 800-735-2966 (TTY), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.